



State of North Carolina

Department of Administration

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Veterans Working Group to Focus on Job Creation and Workforce Enrichment

RALEIGH – May 22, 2014

The Governor's Working Group on Veterans, Service Members and their Families will hold its inaugural meeting today from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. at the NC National Guard Headquarters in Raleigh. The focus of today's meeting will be job creation and workforce enrichment for veterans. Presentations will be given by: Major Frank Poovey, NC National Guard; Wesley Alston, Division of Workforce Solutions; and Kimberly Lindsay, Chief Human Resource Office for the City of Jacksonville, NC. Today's attendance is expected to be over 100, and many veterans service providers are expected to participate in person or via four video conference locations – Fayetteville, Jacksonville, Charlotte and Asheville.

"Governor McCrory has proven his support for veterans and their families by creating this Working Group dedicated to identifying and meeting their specific needs," said Ilario Pantano, Director of the North Carolina Division of Veterans Affairs. "Today's meeting comes on the heels of Governor McCrory's announcement to offer in-state tuition to veterans at NC's community colleges and UNC institutions. North Carolina is truly the state of choice for veterans."

The Working Group was established by Executive Order 49 to develop interagency solutions to make NC a more veteran friendly state. The Governor's Military Affairs Advisor, Major General Cornell Wilson, will chair the Working Group with co-chairs from the Departments of Administration, Health and Human Services, Commerce, and one citizen veterans' services advocate. The Working Group is comprised of 40 members who represent a cross section of state, federal and community organizations: federal and state veterans affairs departments; the UNC and community college system; and from all major veterans service organizations. The Working Group's goal is to make North Carolina the state of choice for veterans by facilitating a heightened level of collaboration and coordination within the system of care to effectively and responsively meet the needs of veterans, service members, and their families.

For more information about the Working Group and the NC Division of Veterans Affairs, please contact Ilario Pantano at 919-807-4250.

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